

# HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS

Hackney's **OTHER** Newspaper

## Hackney & Oakdale TWINNED TO WIN!

Hackney's support for the miners strike has grown even stronger as the dispute goes into its fourth month. Hackney has now been officially 'twinning' with the Gwent area of South Wales. A number of miners from Gwent are now based at the office in the Town Hall provided by the Council, food and money are being collected all over the Borough and many other links between local people and Gwent miners and their families are being developed. Below we report on a number of these activities, beginning with the links between Hackney Greenham Women and Oakdale Colliery Women's Support Group.



Women from Hackney and Oakdale meet. Photo: Jenny Matthews-Format.

## WOMEN GET TOGETHER

On Friday 13th July, Hackney Greenham Women are organising a Women Only Benefit at Stoke Newington Town Hall for Oakdale Colliery Women's Support Group. This group consists of about 30 women from a mining community in Gwent, South Wales, where 900 miners are on strike. The women are organising to support the strike, and fight the unnecessary closure of pits.

On the same night in Gwent, Oakdale women are organising their own benefit, but it is hoped that a few women will be able to come to Hackney to speak at the Benefit, and continue to strengthen the links that are beginning to be made.

The opportunity for contact between Hackney and Oakdale women came with the association of Hackney and Gwent NUM, and the presence of Gwent miners (who turned out to be sympathetic to Greenham) in Hackney. This resulted in the first of (hopefully many) visits by women from Hackney Greenham groups to Oakdale on Monday/Tuesday 25/26 June, and in a process of mutual learning and talking about each other's struggles.

### Breadline

The Oakdale women's support group started a few weeks after the strike. A family of six in Oakdale are living on

£18.60 per week supplementary benefit (the amount of 'strike pay' having been deducted, only there isn't any strike pay) plus £25 per week child benefit. As one of the women said: "Various days I've got no bread. I make sure Billy, Martin and Paul have got it, but I go without." Funds for food parcels is where they started organising, with local collections, jumble sales and raffles.

However, before long their activities went beyond looking after the food, the traditional area of women's responsibility, to participating in rallies and local picketing. At first this was a difficult experience for many women: "When we started on these rallies a lot of women in the village thought we were lowering ourselves by shouting and bawling": for, as another woman explained, "We've never been involved in anything as big as this before."

But on 12th May 1984 there was a 10,000 strong rally of Women's support groups from all over Britain at Barnsley: this was a turning point for women's involvement in the strike: "We went to Barnsley and we heard the women and we changed our attitude"... "When you see what other women are doing -you think, if they can do it, why not

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## How Hackney helps

Hackney's support for the Miners is centred around the office which the Council has provided in the Town Hall. Four miners from the Oakdale Colliery are permanently based there so that they can organise speaking engagements and collections of food and money.

The activity organised from this office has been impressive. The four miners have talked to about 200 separate meetings of Trade Unionists, Community Groups and have raised thousands of pounds in both cash and food. And all this from Britain's poorest Borough.

Perhaps the most direct support has come from the convoy of food sent to Oakdale on 23rd June. Food was collected at a number of points around the Borough. Two van loads, accompanied by Hackney's Deputy Mayor Betty Shanks, went to Wales to the local Miners Gala. A letter from the Leader of Ebbw Vale Council was read to the Hackney Council meeting by Hilda Kean, thanking the people of Hackney for their help and Betty Shanks told the meeting how warmly she had been received.

Speaking on the day of the

tremendous show of support for the miners organised by the South East Region of the TUC, Hilda Kean told the Council meeting how the Government was scared, because it remembered the miners strike of 1974. They were attempting to starve and brutalise the miners back to work. A defeat for the miners would mean the Government continuing its monetarist policies which so affected Hackney.

The Council is supporting a Miners Support Committee for Hackney, to co-ordinate, organise and publicise solidarity work in Hackney. A public Meeting has been organised to plan the work

the work of this Committee and this will be held on Thursday 12 July in the Town Hall, Mare St. The meeting is being sponsored by the Hackney Trades Council and many other Trade Unions, political parties and other organisations.

A public meeting in support of the miners has also been organised by the Oakdale Colliery miners. This will take place on 16 July at the Town Hall and the speakers will include Tony Benn MP and NUM General Secretary Peter Heathfield.

Further information from the Miners Support Committee Hackney on 249 8086 or 985 6892.



Loading up the Gwent food convoy. Photo: Jim Westwood

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NATIONAL UNION OF MINERS  
**COAL  
NOT  
DOLE**





## letters

### Sweatshops

Dear HPP,

I have been mandated to write to you by the staff of the Environmental Health Division, following the recent joint NALGO/NUPE meeting, to draw to the attention of your readers the manner in which we have been treated by our "radical socialist employers".

The Stewards, and in particular the Safety Representatives, have for some years now been endeavouring to get some action taken regarding our highly unsatisfactory office accommodation. As a Safety Representative, I carried out a major Safety Audit with the Division's Management in 1981 and the Report I prepared was circulated, amongst others, to our then Committee Chair, Anthony Kendall. A recent Audit of this year showed little improvement and there were still deficiencies in fire precautions, etc.

Furthermore, despite the exceedingly high vacancy level, some workplace rooms were found to be so heavily occupied as to be on the verge of statutory overcrowding. In a final attempt to get some resolution to the problem, I attended the Health and Consumer Rights Committee of 2 May, to present the staff's dissatisfaction with conditions. Despite the clear support for action which was forthcoming from Labour Councillors with a long association with our Committee, no action was agreed. The staff have, therefore, been left with no alternative but to instigate industrial action.

### Aggressive

Similarly, the staff were very concerned about the current vacancy level existing

in the Division, which is clearly much higher than most, if not all, Council Directorates. Both NALGO and NUPE have a National no-cover policy which has frequently been by-passed as a goodwill gesture. However, given the aggressive attitude taken by the Head of Personnel regarding future recruitment and the failure of the Council to ensure that even those posts for which finance is available are filled, the staff have again agreed an initial programme of action. It is the intention of the staff that, wherever possible, all our actions are aimed directly at the Councillors and to cause, at least in the first instance, as little inconvenience as possible to the public.

### Fails

The Unions have, in the past, advised the Council that they will support any initiatives taken in fighting the undemocratic Government attacks on Local Authorities such as Hackney, providing these do not have staffing implications. We certainly cannot condone or support a radical socialist Council which allows its staff to work in "sweatshop" conditions and fails to fill vacancies required to deliver much needed services to the Borough's ratepayers.

Yours faithfully,  
Bill Page, Co-opted Staffside Representative, Health and Consumer Rights Committee.

HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS JUNE 1984

## Journalism gone crazy?

Dear HPP

The hysterical rant in your columns last month from that indefatigable self-publicist Gery Lawless should surely have been headlined "Journalist Goes Crazy". For what it contained was his own highly partial account of affairs (the key meeting of which, the Labour party borough conference, he managed to miss) and dressed it up with a degree of over-the-top ranting which makes Norman Tebbit look like Mr Nice Guy.

We learn from Lawless's reasoned arguments that he "was virtually the only open critic of Anthony Kendall's leadership on the Council and weekly exposed his fake left politics like his and Peter Kahn's role in the SAS style union-busting activity at the St John's Area Base." This is complete rubbish. Gery Lawless had nothing to do with the occupation of the Area Base by the tenants and workforce, and analysis of press coverage yields no statement by him "exposing" any union-busting or anything else.

He also claims to have "revealed" that "vital decisions" were being taken at private meetings in Kendall's home. He is referring to meetings of a sub-committee of the Labour Group, called Party Policy, which he was elected to in May 1983. Lawless resigned from this group, calling it a sham, in February this year - but later, in May, he tried to get back on. Does he believe that the group will be so much better now, with the change in the leadership?

### Signpost

Lawless should get back to what he does best: posing for pictures for the Hackney Gazette, pretending to be a signpost. His tirades in your columns are turning him into a bigger bore than Arthur Super.

Yours for socialism

Brien O'Connor

## OUTSIDE LEFT?

I had a letter from Anthony Kendall dated 26th March - it finally reached me at the end of May (Hackney Borough Council moves slowly) giving me lots of the onion and snot-rag treatment about the fact that the rates had to go up by 17%. Since this decision, the Hackney Council has a new leader and the old one, Anthony, has very likely joined in charitable work to alleviate the burden of the poor. Perhaps he is selling off his Summer house in France, cashing in his stocks and shares, and having a hand out with the proceeds in Ridley Road so that the poor will know that he is really concerned? Perhaps not.

### Defying the Government

Since then we have a new leader of the Council who is threatening not to implement the new cuts and defying the Government. Very good. In the event it is highly unlikely that the Council will do this because there is every reason to believe that the Government will surcharge the members, and they will lose their houses and possessions. Except of course those who have no houses and possessions, but these seem to be fairly few on the Council.

In any event the Government will then send in Commissioners who will do the job for them,

and so whatever happens the poor of the Borough will end up paying the rates increase or more people will be on the dole and services will be cut.

### Poor suffer

In neighbouring Islington anti-racist, anti-sexist, but not having the courage to defy the Tory Government on something important, it is now almost certain that they will take the line of implementing the cuts. So they've done their best to stop sexist jokes, and anti-Irish banter, but they are quite prepared to take money off the poor, in order to stay in power.

In last month's HPP Hilda Kean, the new leader of the Council says - "Unless the Government recognises the real needs of Hackney people, we will have to organise a campaign that will lead us into confrontation". Well there's no chance that the Government will change its mind. They seem to enjoy confrontation and are spoiling for a fight, so what will be this campaign that will lead us into confrontation? Perhaps all the Learned Councillors will burn their University Diplomas outside the Town Hall and give up arguing in the Tanners and the Wine Bars; maybe they will all

camp outside the Town Hall in Greenham fashion, perhaps they might decide to be flying pickets, sell their houses, cash up their pension funds and throw in their lot with Arthur's Army.

All of this seems unlikely and the most probable thing to happen will be nothing. Of course there will be strong words and perhaps a lobby or two, a bit of Flag Waving. This will achieve fuck all and the poor will end up carrying the can as usual. For people in Britain's poorest Borough, the change of leadership will make no difference.

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## Roach campaigners still hounded

Professor Derek Russell Davis, an independent psychiatrist, managed to get into Wandsworth prison last month to examine Cyrus Noor on behalf of the Stoke Newington and Hackney Defence Campaign, of which Noor is a member.

However, prison doctors were not to be found and Prof Russell Davis was unable to examine Noor's case papers or find out which drugs he was being given.

Brian Raymond, Cyrus Noor's solicitor, has continued to threaten the Prison Department with legal action until a full examination is complete. During his June visit, Prof Russell Davis found Noor to be too heavily sedated to make a proper examination.

no child was reported missing in South London, but he was still charged with obstructing an officer during the course of the arrest. His case goes before the Horseferry Road magistrates on 25 August.

The Prison Department wrote to Kelly at the beginning of June to tell him that "the Home Secretary has not yet reached any decision about the expediency of making a transfer direction under section 47 (of the Mental Health Act 1983)". Nonetheless, the Department is keeping Noor drugged in a prison hospital and is making preparations for the transfer to be made.

### "Vegetating"

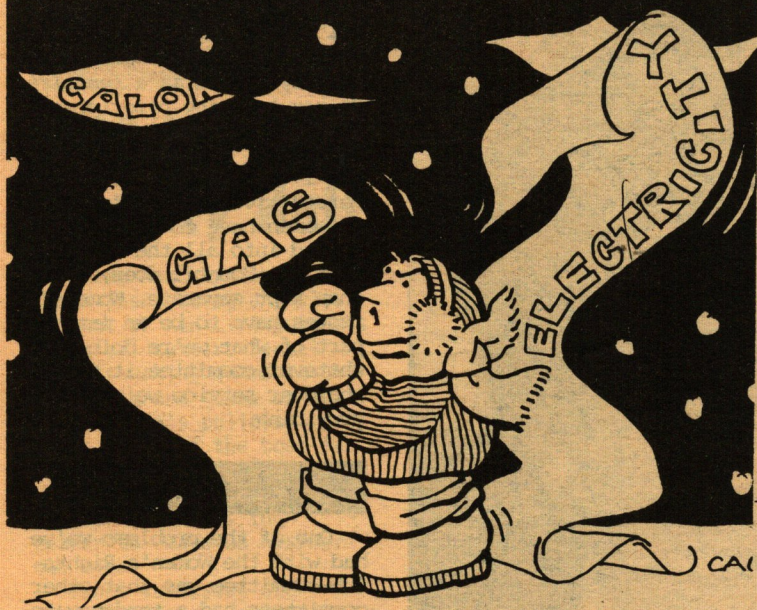
"They're vegetating him," said Ace Kelly from the Defence Campaign.

On 10 June, the day before the Stoke Newington and Hackney Defence Campaign was due to picket the Home Office, Ace Kelly was arrested in Kennington for "child abduction". Kelly told HPP that





# HACKNEY'S COLD WAR



## Plan to fight fuel poverty

THE London Energy and Employment Network and Hackney Council have collaborated to organise a conference on 10 July at the Town Hall to develop a borough plan for action to fight fuel poverty.

Pilot insulation and energy conservation projects on some estates have shown that saving energy is both cost effective and a means of creating jobs and improving services in housing. Yet thousands of households in London still have trouble paying their fuel bills. Low incomes, combined with expensive heating systems and poor insulation, mean that often people are unable to provide themselves with a decent level of warmth and comfort during the winter months.

## Causes

Although low wages and unemployment are fundamental causes of this fuel poverty, there are still many short term steps that can alleviate it. Some simple measures can be taken for little cost.

## Threat to co-options

Hackney Community Action, the "Umbrella" organisation of local community groups has once again had its co-opted places on the council threatened.

From September it seems that HCA will no longer have an automatic place on council Committees. Instead it will be at the discretion of each committee whether they want to co-opt a HCA rep.

In workplaces too, energy wastage means higher costs than are necessary. Many commercial, industrial and public buildings were built decades ago when little attention was paid to heating costs. Minor modifications could both improve the working environment and cut bills. Public buildings could spend less on energy and release funds for improving services to local people.

## Economic sense

Energy conservation could create thousands of jobs in London if a coherent strategy for insulation and home improvement were developed. Most jobs would be for semi-skilled and unskilled workers, with only a very small amount of training needed. Insulation and energy conservation make good economic sense: if £921m were spent on insulating London homes in the next decade the saving in energy costs would top £4 billion by the end of the century. This programme would create some 3000 jobs.

The conference will aim to map out such a strategy to make sure that people no longer have to face the misery of high bills and freezing winters. Anyone is welcome to attend; for more information, contact Richard Macphail on 380 1002.

HCA considers that such places should be a right, not a privilege. A meeting with Council Leader Hilda Keen and Cllr. Chris Spenser led to an agreement that Committees be asked to respect HCA's present representation. But will they? And if not should the community groups decide to withdraw from all council structures in protest? Might this be counter productive? Some people

might just sigh with relief at not having to consider the troublesome reality brought in by those groups more in touch with Hackney's ordinary people and their problems?'

# Open to women

Hackney Women's Centre is now open. Three years after a number of local women formed the original support group, the G.L.C. and Hackney Council have finally provided the necessary funding for the premises equipment and salaries. The centre is situated temporarily at 27 Hackney Grove (opposite the new garden) and plans to move to permanent premises in Dalston Lane early next year.

The present centre, which employs four workers, aims to provide a wide range of activities and facilities for women of all ethnic and social backgrounds. Owing to limited space and the temporary nature of the Hackney Grove building, the workers are mainly concerned at present that the centre should be used by women seeking advice—however any women's groups needing somewhere to meet are welcome to contact the workers. Plans for outreach work in local communities and a creche are underway and there will be an official opening day in mid-July with a view to publicising the centre and its activities.

The Hackney Grove Centre is open from 9 to 5 weekdays and the workers are glad to deal

with any enquiries from women calling in. The centre would also be grateful for any information concerning women's activities and events in the Hackney area. Women interested in helping with the administrative and financial running of the centre are welcome to join the support group, which meets at Hackney Grove, every Tuesday at 7.30.

It is hoped that reconstruction work at the Dalston Lane centre will begin immediately and plans for the layout and equipment of the building are being finalized with architects Matrix. The workers and support group broadly aim that the centre will offer women an advisory service, in addition to providing meeting rooms, a cafe, creche and library. Ramps will give ground floor access to the disabled and it has been suggested that a wheelchair could be installed to the first floor, although cost and fire regulations are proving a problem. A campaign is being launched to raise the money needed for this project and any person wishing to contribute, financially or otherwise, is urged to get in touch with the centre.

# TOWER HAMLETS LIBRARY STRIKE

NALGO staff in Tower Hamlets have been on strike since 13 June, in support of library staff who were threatened with suspension if they refused to accept fine money.

The dispute was brought on when Tower Hamlets council removed Roman Road and Poplar libraries from a library services review—because it wanted to shut them down.

The Labour-controlled council is worried about being rate-capped and is looking to impose its own cuts to escape. Until June it had consulted with staff in service 'reviews' in a bid to neutralise opposition.

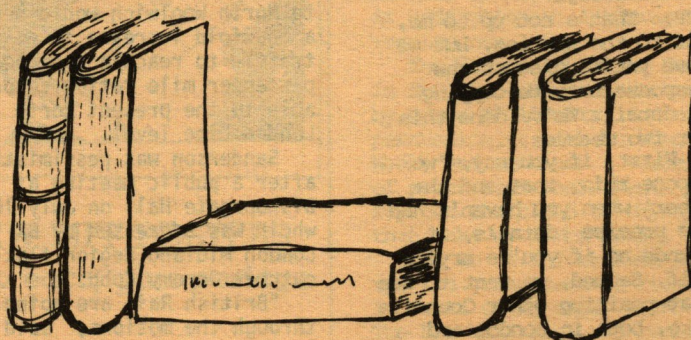
Tower Hamlets library staff refused to accept the council's pre-emptive strike, and decided to take limited industrial action.

On the morning they were to start, 50 librarians received letters from the council telling them that they would be in breach of their contracts if they didn't collect library fines, and the council would send them home.

Tower Hamlets NALGO members were angered by the way the council had threatened the librarians so quickly for taking such minor action.

NALGO has made a return to work conditional on the council withdrawing the suspension threat. The union also wants any library closures or service cuts to be subject to library staff approval.

As HPP went to press, the strike was entering its 4th week. For more information, contact Tower Hamlets NALGO on 980 4831.



# Armed Police search Flat

Hackney Council for Racial Equality has complained to the Police Commissioner over a recent incident in which Flying Squad police searched a black family's flat, using guns to intimidate them.

The police visited Mrs. Campbell's flat at Columbine Court, Hackney, early on the morning of May 14, when they approached the room of Mrs. Campbell's son, Anthony Dyce and his girlfriend, they produced guns and ordered him into his room at gunpoint.

## frightened

The police said they were looking for Securicor money. No money was found, nothing was confiscated, no-one was arrested and no-one was asked to report to the police station.

Mr Dyce feels that because he has just come out of prison, the police think they can treat him as though he has no rights. The family are both angry and frightened by their treatment by the police. Mrs. Campbell said it was the second time this year and the fourth time in two years that the flat had been searched.

## Brutal

Mr. Lloyd King, chair of HCRE, said "the police have not changed. Despite their huge public relations campaign to put a smiling face on the police force, they are just as ready as before to treat the community in a brutal and high-handed fashion." The local M.P. Brian Sedgmore, the National Council of Civil Liberties and Hackney borough Council have been informed of the details of the case.

## Pro-Police

Mr Ian Haig, of HCRE said that an investigating officer from Scotland Yard had been appointed to look into the details of the case. "Normally, they would appoint some one from within the Hackney district". He felt that local media, especially the Gazette, had ignored the incident. "They're so pro-police its not true".

He felt that a serious investigation was vital: "If we are to have any chance of getting an accountable police force, such matters must be looked into".





# THE HPP INTERVIEW KEAN GIVES A NEW LEAD

After a long pursuit, HPP's stake-out team managed to catch Hilda Kean at home long enough to conduct an in depth inquisition over the telephone line. As a result, we apologise to both our readers and the leader of the council if the record that follows seems a bit garbled-- our shorthand wasn't fast enough.

HPP: What made you oppose Anthony Kendall?

HK: The main thing was the General Committees of Hackney Labour Party had made it clear that the council shouldn't be passing on Tory cuts to local people. They supported the Three Noes policy: No rate rise, No rent rise, No cuts in services. This position was designed to show that it was the government and not the council that was passing the cuts. My main reason was that the previous leader refused to adhere to those policies.

HPP: Then the Council's accountability should improve?

HK: Yes-- we now have an arrangement whereby the leader's notes go round to the Labour group. Everyone is getting the same information. Both Andrew (Puddephat) and myself are committed to attending both GCs. This means we have a hectic Thursday evening every now and then, rushing from one to the other, but it shows we are willing to disseminate information and are willing to communicate.

HPP: In the City Limits interview, you said that it wasn't what the GLC had done, but what people thought they'd done-- can you elaborate on that?

Obviously I support the GLC and the actions they have taken. In no way did I intend it as a criticism. Their particular initiatives in funding womens' groups and anti-racist groups are very positive steps that I support. Not simply do they have real importance to Londoners' lives, but they use their position as a council to improve Londoners' lives. It's the position they are seen to be taking up. In their roles as councillors they put across socialist ideals and challenge government policies.

HPP: How will you win support in Hackney for your policies?

HK: By doing as much as possible to improve local services, so that we are asking people to defend something they see as really worth it. Although, of course, I think services are worth defending anyway.

People will see the Council working in a different way. For example, we are asking all the Council sub-committees to set themselves targets and work towards improvements in their own areas, so they have something they're aiming towards. In line with the policies passed at the borough conference, we are working for single status and the defence of the DLO.

For example, our housing

capital programme was decided in conjunction with the DLO.

We were not simply imposing something from on high, but working together with the DLO unions.

HPP: Do you feel your administration will have any better relations with trade unions than the last leadership?

HK: Oh yes. We will have single status and a 35 hour week for residential social workers from October, and we have taken steps towards getting single status for the manual unions by January.

We are also working with Hackney Tenants Federation re St John's area base. Decentralisation is a priority within housing. We are working towards area bases throughout the borough and are taking the Fed's proposals on board. We eventually want to have bases under tenant control. We are trying to show that we are prepared to implement policies and be accountable.

HPP: Will Decentralisation be revived?

HK: It was a manifesto commitment, but much of the initial impetus has been lost. The best way to regain it is to put forward practical proposals for decentralisation in a particular area, which will spur on other areas.

HPP: Do you envisage Hackney banding together with other Councils threatened with rate-capping?

HK: We already work with other Councils through the Association of London Authorities. Coming up on the weekend of July 6 & 7 there is a Labour Party Local Government Recall conference, where Councils will come together nationally to discuss strategies. There is general agreement that enough is enough, that there should be no more passing on of Tory policies, but we have yet to discuss the specific tactics within that wider strategy.

HPP: Are you hampered by the fact that other Committee Chairs are not Three Noes supporters?

HK: Let's look at it in a different context, in the relation of the Council and the Labour group to the local parties. The Council should carry out the policies of the local parties, which are submitted through the Local Government Committee. It's not a case of the Labour group deciding which policies to follow.

HPP: If councillors do not support the Three Noes policy, do you feel they should resign?

HK: That's not up to me, but to the parties. But we have yet to discuss the response to rate-capping in detail. We've done this for two reasons.

First, if you say, 'we oppose this, that and the other' when you haven't had the precise details, it sounds as if you're crying wolf. Second, we want to see what position other Councils take, both in London and nationally.

HPP: Would you mind if I asked you questions about



Photo: Andrew Ward/Report

yourself, to build up a profile for people who don't know you? I believe you were born in Hackney.

HK: That's right.

HPP: Where did you go to school?

HK: I went to Millfields junior school and then to what's now called Clapton school. It used to be called John Howard.

HPP: How did you get involved in politics?

HK: Mainly through my activities in my union. I'm a member of the NUT.

HPP: How much experience did you have before you were elected leader?

HK: I was elected to the Council in '82.

HPP: How are you finding the media attention that you have attracted since being elected?

HK: Predictable.

HPP: In what way?

HK: As with the media focus on Ken Livingstone at the GLC. When he took up office, the media attempted to undermine the work of a socialist Council.

It's predictable that you

get media attention that is designed to undermine the defence of working class people against the ravages of this government.

HPP: Have you developed a personal strategy for coping with this or fending it off?

HK: No.

HPP: You described yourself in City Limits as a feminist. Do you have any priorities concerning womens' issues in Hackney?

HK: I think that a feminist perspective and the interests of women have to be integrated into all the work that the Council does, rather than kept separate. Womens' issues have to be an integral part of what we're doing, whatever committee it is, whatever service we're providing.

One of the problems we've had with the Women's Rights Sub-committee was that other committees had a tendency to shunt anything to do with women off in to the Womens' committee, and left them to sort it out. We're trying to operate the other way round. We're going on the offensive and saying to different service committees: 'What are you doing in your area to take up the problems that women face?' We're trying to alter the balance. HPP: Ken Livingstone has said that men in the Labour Party are the same as men anywhere else, they're unwilling to give up power, as they have to do. Have you found that? HK: I'm not sure. I think there is an awareness in the Hackney Labour Party of womens' issues and the positive contribution that feminism has made to the socialist movement. That doesn't mean to say everything is perfect, but there is certainly a willingness to take women's issues seriously, which isn't the case for society as a whole.

## Office blocks for Broad St

British Rail is pressing on with its plans to close the Dalston Junction-Broad Street section of the North London Line, even though the two stations are the busiest on the route.

John Sanderson, secretary of the North London Line Committee, found this out from one of BR's own passenger use surveys from 1981. Sanderson estimates that the electrified Crosstown line to North Woolwich would need a fourfold increase in traffic to reach a cost per passenger mile ration comparable to the present North London Line level.

Sanderson was pessimistic after a public meeting at Bishopsgate Hall on July 10, which was addressed by BR London Midland Region flak-catcher Jeremy Cobb.

"British Rail are going through the motions," said Sanderson. "They've already decided it... They're electrifying the North Woolwich

line in order to take trains away from Broad Street, so they can knock it down," he said. The deadline for passengers to submit their evidence to the Transport Users Consultative Committee has passed and Secretary of State for Transport Nicholas Ridley will decide the stations' fate in the autumn.

Cobb said British Rail want to close Broad Street to get use of the "total site" to redevelop Liverpool Street. It is now likely however that the Broad Street site will be turned into office blocks, the rent from which will help to finance a less ambitious facelift for Liverpool Street. Wimpey, the original bidder for the Liverpool Street development, later decided that the finance was too shaky and has pulled out of it.

The City of London's busiest rail terminus is also hopelessly congested, especially during rush hours. ASLEF

train drivers laughed bitterly about the Graham Road loop plan at the Bishopsgate meeting.

"God help you," one driver told the London Midland Region representative, "Eastern Region won't take your trains."

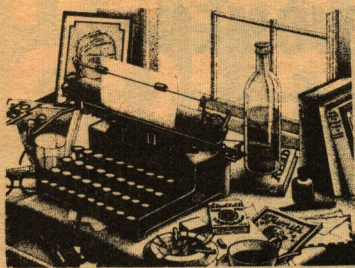
There won't be many trains to worry about--present North London Line services (3 trains per hour, plus Watford trains during peak periods) will be replaced by 2 trains per hour IN PEAK PERIODS ONLY.

Said BR's Cobb: "We contend there are satisfactory alternative services for the number of people travelling at other times."

Cobb also said that the plans were very complicated--so complicated that the Liverpool Street redevelopment was acting as a smoke screen for an appalling cut in services on a line which RUNS AT A PROFIT. When was the last time you wanted to take a train to Woolwich?



## REVIEWS



## The road to County Hall

"Citizen Ken" by John Carvel is a fascinating and clear account of Ken Livingstone's political career. Carvel resists making comments and criticism and takes us on a tour of Ken's political progress. Much of the book is based on extensive interviews with the GLC leader, and Carvel leaves the reader to make up his/her own mind.

Ken's successes and achievements are phenomenal and Carvel's well written account makes them seem to be part of a carefully determined plan. The book for me highlights four important factors that contribute to this success. They are: luck, planning, political skill and communication.

### SUCCESSSES

A successful politician should always be able to use a situation to his/her advantage. Ken and the GLC Labour Group have often achieved this. They turned the Denning Fares Fair decision to their political and even financial advantage. The Labour movement's defeat in the transfer of GLC Housing has also meant that the GLC has been able to relate to Londoners without a millstone of housing around their necks. The Tory government has undoubtedly helped with their abolition proposals. The combination of Thatcher's pique and Jenkin's incompetence, and the patent

stupidity of the proposals themselves have given Ken and the GLC a situation they have learnt to exploit mercilessly.

The book shows how much Ken has thought about the future, and his political and geographical moves have generally been successful--Brent East being the major failure. An ability to identify the next issue and to provide a clear analysis of it are shown again and again in the book. The book also shows (and none of the other contributors dispute this) that Ken's political and debating skills are formidable. He gives a new meaning to caucusing and manoeuvring.

His exceptional talent and, I feel the one that has helped the GLC the most, has been his ability to combine the internal politicking with an understanding and flair for communicating with non-political activists. He has clearly shown that to communicate with people generally you have to abandon the rhetoric so often used within the confines of the Labour Party. He has done this by clearly and persistently putting forward arguments, which have never been compromised by the use of every day language. He has also shown a clear understanding of the need to involve a vast section of people who are not politically committed or active but none the less can be won to progressive and radical causes. This has been particularly so with black and ethnic minority people and organisations, women's groups, and community organisations. This, combined with a flair for publicity, has meant a massive mobilisation in defence of the GLC.

I have ignored areas of criticism in this review since the successes have been more interesting. At a moment of triumph following the House of Lords decision it seems more appropriate to concentrate on the positive.

Anthony Kendall

*Citizen Ken*, by John Carvel, Chatto & Windus, £2.95.

## Early heroes

Immediately before the First World War, there were four Labour councillors in Shore-ditch and eight in Poplar. In Bethnal Green and Stepney there were none at all. At the 1919 election, Labour won control of all these four boroughs, and East London was established as the "Labour stronghold" it is still today.

A new book, "Behind the Lines", by Julia Bush, documents how this came about. How, in Dockers Union leader Ben Tillett's words, Labour became "no longer content to be an inarticulate, servile mass." It is a fascinating story, the product of many years research in the dusty garrets of trade union archives and amongst the back files of long dead newspapers.

The reason for the sweep forward to power lay in the fusion of the unions' industrial strength with the organisation and determination of those active in the emerging Labour parties. Trade unions in East London increased in membership by some 80 per cent during the war. The electorate doubled overnight with the passing of the 1918 Representation of the People Act, which gave the vote to all men over 21 and all women over 30.

"Behind the Lines" is a book primarily of research, and at times, it reads like that. What is lacking is the stirring feeling of passion and commitment present for instance in a book about a slightly later period, Noreen Branson's "Poplarism". But it remains, nevertheless, a thoroughly admirable and extensively documented account of the formative years of "this great movement of ours" in East London. What would be welcome in Hackney is a similar study of the local party. Never has it been more necessary for socialists to study the determination shown by the great women and men who brought our movement into being.

Charles Foster

*Behind the Lines*, by Julia Bush, Merlin Press, £5.50.

# ANARCHIST ARTIST

Anarres, Hackney's multi-media Cooperative, has entered the book publishing trade with a volume of the anarchist graphics of Clifford Harper. "The Education of Desire" is the sort of book that can keep you interested just by looking at the pictures. Interwoven with Harper's finest illustrations and comic strips is a conversation between the artist and poet Alan Cornford.

One of the reasons Harper is so popular in HPP's graphic design department is that his 'artwork' has grown directly out of his involvement with radical presses.

He explains: "Everything I do has to be immediately translatable onto an offset litho plate." It's a pity (from our selfish point of view) that more people don't follow Harper's simple and direct approach to illustration for print.

Harper explains in the text that he took to drawing quite late in life, after spending the late 60s living communally on Eel Pie Island and in squats in Camden Town and Stepney. After meeting a Situationist in Paris, who transformed Marvel comics into revolutionary tracts by substituting his own text, Harper though 'why not draw the comic as well?'

## THE EDUCATION OF DESIRE



It was during a stay in hospital in 1971 that Harper started drawing. The result, after three years' work, was Class War Comix. Many people may also have seen Harper's optimistic series 'Utopian Visions' which show scenes of efficient and autonomous communes existing in ordinary terraced houses.

The Bradbury Street office of Trojan Press, and the other local cooperatives, are living confirmation of the prophetic nature of these early drawings, but Bradbury Street is an extremely small outpost. Much of Harper's later work is more sombre and introverted, reflecting some of the barriers that stand between us and utopia. Interestingly, his 'dark' period started in 1979.

Reading the text is like eavesdropping on someone else's politico-artistic conversation. Alan Cornford is a Californated Geordie who earnestly throws around the names of intellectual heavyweights as though they were confetti. He apologises at the beginning of the book for being too talkative, but his enthusiastic manner helps to draw Clifford Harper out. The result is a no-holds-barred encounter that becomes more and more readable as the tow of them find new insights about themselves.

Combining accessible art, good conversation and political insight for £4.95, 'The Education of Desire' costs less than a night out.

John Stokdyk

*The Education of Desire*, by Clifford Harper, Anarres £4.95

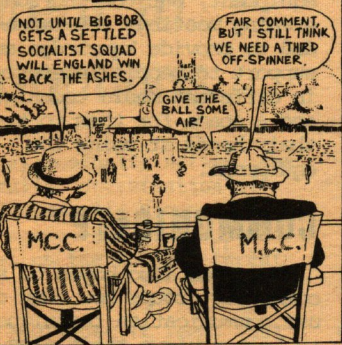
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## SCHOOL FOR SAMBA

Hailing from Jenako Arts, the London School of Samba last month took over Chat's Palace to give Hackney a lesson in the delights of Latin percussion. Hot on the heels of a Sam Cooke night came London School of Samba's appearance. Picked up and trivialised briefly in 1981 as the fashionable sound, jazz and salsa is undergoing an encouraging renaissance.

The London School of Samba is directed and orchestrated by Bosco D'Oliveira, featured percussionist with Working Week, and combines a variety of percussion instruments that rap out the blend of rhythms that make up Samba music.

Due to an unfortunate mix-up, the group came on stage in front of an empty room. The bar next door was packed with people who were waiting for confirmation that the band would appear.

After a short break the evening shrugged off the feeling of a rehearsal and bodies slithered on to the dancefloor to the incessant carnival beat.

It was a measure of ISS's mood that so many people maintained their enthusiasm to the end. With natural progression, this samba group could turn out to be a worthwhile cause, bringing respect back to Brit Latin music after Modern Romance's salsa efforts seemed to have sunk it forever. Whether this is possible with what appeared to be an ever-changing line-up is debatable. The lack of any electrical instruments was a highly laudable exclusion. For once the intricacies of interwoven rhythms wasn't drowned out by a guitar, bass or synth.

Clifford Salt



# Got them wine bar blues

Having enjoyed the "real pub" atmosphere of The Brownlow Arms in Scrien Street last month, we now take a closer look at the seemingly unstoppable conversion of good basic boozers to what we call the "pseudo wine bar-pub" - and ask where will it all end?

OK, so we've reviewed a few in the past and there's no doubt that there is a place for them. Times change, people change and so does the English pub. Always has, always will. But it can't be only us who are concerned and disillusioned with the changes to Hackney pubs, particularly in Stoke Newington.

Members of the Pub of the Month research team have come up with a couple of examples.

## FOX'S WINE BAR

Fox's was the first of the flowery watering holes that have sprung up around Church Street in profusion in the last few years. When it opened the most amazing thing was that most citizens had no idea that so many slugs lived on the Manor. Within weeks they had crawled out from their stones having found a home from home.

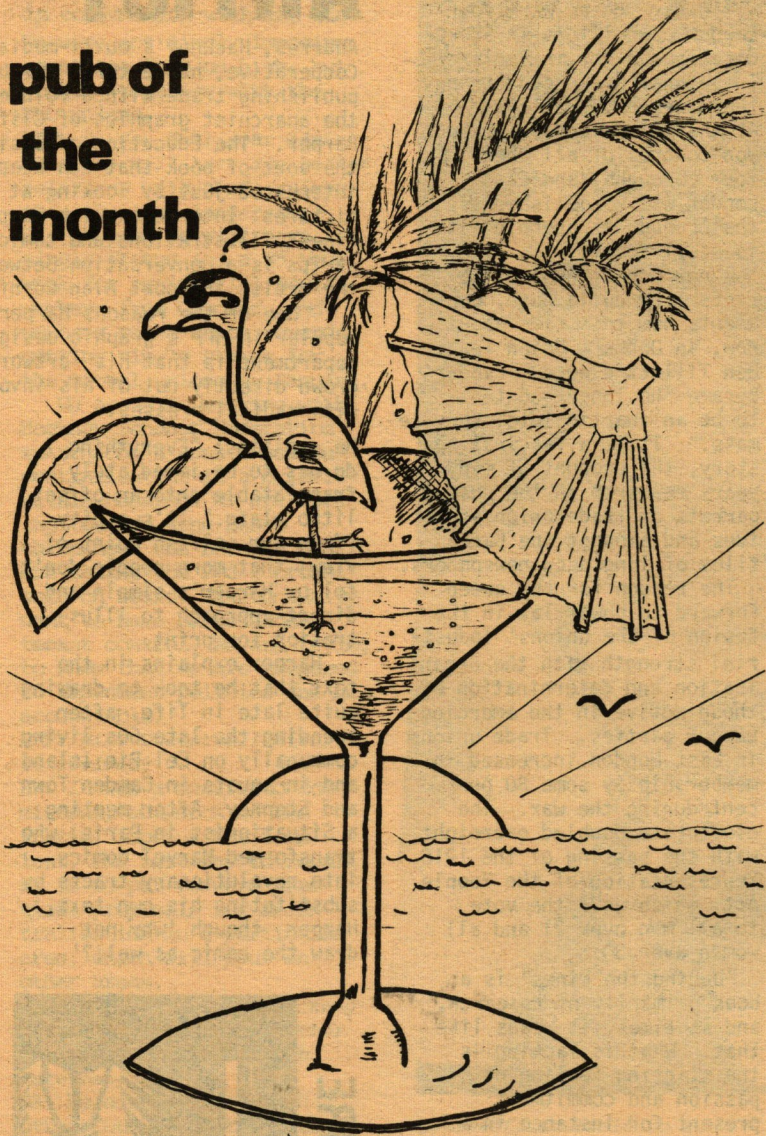
They are attracted there by Wine (Beer attracts fat-gutted plebs), food eg. Quiche Lorraine (formerly known as Bacon and Egg Pie), papers and peri-

odicals (none of the populars of course, they encourage the betting fraternity), tables and chairs crowded together to form an intimate atmosphere (you can't swing a cat in the joint).

## CAN'T DANCE

Loud conversation is frowned upon, as is extrovert behaviour and dancing. It would appear that the Professional Classes enjoy themselves in a different way. That appears to be whispering about each other, although they refer to colleagues quite a lot.

## pub of the month?



Some citizens thought when it first opened that a little bit of intellectual conversation might be found there, the general diet of football, betting and sex might be avoided. In fact the intellectual conversation is zilch. All they can manage is the Cribbage School, the Cricket Team (a game which is alien to the Cockney Mind) and they do have the Beano on the periodical rack.

It is obvious that in years to come Fox's Wine Bar will be on every university's Sociology course so they can study themselves!

## PALMS & LISZT

A sort of surrealist blend of Steptoes Wine Bar and Tanners Hall. You think you're going to a pub for a drink and find yourself in what looks like a cross between a library and a greenhouse. But then you reach the bar and jump onto a stool - except that unless you are a steeple jack you might find yourself getting dizzy, especially with those fans above that whirl around wobbling as if they're about to come crashing down.

And all before you're half way down the first half!

To add to the atmosphere the pubs pay-phone is even located in a real telephone box. All very Dr Who-ish; very amusing. For reality perhaps they should have vandalised it?

The range of real ales and lagers was good, the cocktails looked very, er...interesting, wine and fruit juice available too. All very commendable. We stuck to the beer and lager. Alas the real ales all tasted very similar. Even the one member of the research team who was a member of the Campaign for Real Ale had to agree with this view. Although drinkable, none were pronounced recognisable as the beer named on the pump clip. By the end of the session the lone CAMRA member was caught drinking Carlsberg lager (92p) before recovering sufficiently to order a bottle of Guinness, only to be told that they did not serve bottled Guinness (or Brown Ale) as there was "no demand for it".

Surely the idea of a beer exhibition type pub should be to introduce people to new and different beers in a way that they will appreciate the different brews - and be left with the desire to come back for more?

But if they're not kept properly and all taste equally bland (perhaps because they have too many on offer) then the whole idea becomes counter-productive. No wonder people drink lager, at least it's consistently bland!

Someone, somewhere must be making a mint converting pubs into that anonymous class of 80's pseudo wine bar-pub. Where will it all end? Will we end it by voting with our feet?

FEEDBACK: Suggestions for future Pubs would be welcome, what aspects of the pub do you think we should concentrate on? One suggestion has been for a brew-it-yourself column??

## HOMELESS WOMEN

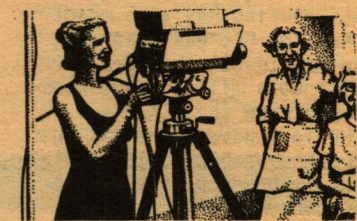
Homeless Action, a voluntary organisation for single homeless women, was the subject of a talk at the June meeting of Hackney CHAR (Campaign for Single Homeless).

Homeless Action provides homes for women between 16 and 60 who are not accepted by other agencies. Claire Nuttal, who gave the talk, told CHAR members that women were the hidden face of homelessness in Hackney. Most hostels are for men and homeless women are forced into very difficult circumstances. Over half the enquiries to the Housing Advisory Service are from women.

The next CHAR meeting on 16 July at 7.00pm, will discuss "Houses in Multiple Occupation" in the Rectory, Mare Street, E8.



What will you be doing on the weekend of 8 & 9 September? Wherever you are, whatever you're doing, the Rio cinema would like you to record it for their new project, "One Day Off in Hackney". To follow on from the success of last year's "One Day in Hackney", which sent over 100 people into the streets to take photographs which reflect their lives and concerns, the Rio is inviting anyone interested to go to the cinema, on Kingsland High Street, on Saturday 21 July at 2.30pm. There you'll be able to see "One Day in Hackney" and discuss how "One Day Off in Hackney" will develop.



## You can't afford to miss an issue of *Marxism Today*

In June 1983, just before the election, *Marxism Today* published a major interview with Neil Kinnock, on Thatcherism, the decline of the Left, and the need for renewal in the Labour Party.

In October 1983 we carried Eric Hobsbawm's article on Labour's Lost Millions, which sparked a debate that is still raging.

In January 1984 David Edgar contributed his visionary essay on 1997, which devastatingly illustrated how Thatcherism might develop.

In April 1984 Bea Campbell's 'How the Other Half Lives' brilliantly demolished many of the Left's myths about the labour movement.

DID YOU MISS ANY OF THESE?

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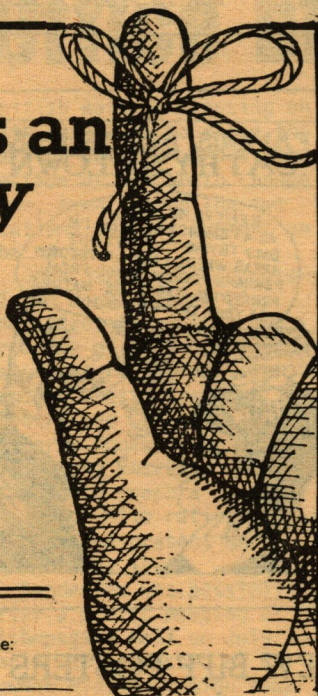
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## EXPLORING THE MEDIA

The Hackney Media Club was formed 3½ months ago to give local people access to a wide range of media techniques. It meets every Thursday from 6.30-9.30pm at The Lauriston Centre, Lauriston Road, near Victoria Park.

The club aims to provide facilities and support for people who would like to experiment in areas like computer graphics, photography, film and video.

So far the club has a BBC microcomputer (with disks), VHS video and film cameras. The club often hosts classes in new techniques, and would particularly welcome people

with media equipment to come along and give demonstrations.

Unfortunately the club cannot lend out any of its equipment, but the Thursday evening meetings are intended to provide knowledge and support to people interested in different media techniques, and a space for them to try their hands at using the equipment.

## COMMUNICATE

The club also hopes to show community groups how they can use communication techniques to help achieve their aims. The club costs 25p per session with a cup of coffee included. It sounds like a very good deal.



# WHAT'S ON

## FESTIVALS

### HACKNEY FESTIVALS IN JULY

- Sat 7: Finsbury Park Action Group, Finsbury Park noon to 6pm.
- Sun 8: Stoke Newington Fest. Clissold Park, 11am to 7pm.
- Sat 14 and Sun 15: Hackney Marsh Festival, Daubeney Fields, 2 to 5pm.
- Sat 21: London Fields Festival. 1.30pm to 5 or 6pm.
- Sat 28: Haggerston Estate Street party, 2 to 5pm.
- Sun 29: Upper Clapton Fest. 12.30 to 5pm.
- Sun 5 August: Hackney Care for Kids. Hackney Downs. And Hackney Anti-Nuclear Festival.

## Theatre

**HOXTON HALL**  
130 Hoxton Street, N1  
739 5431

Hoxton Hall Summer Festival; remaining events:  
Fri 6 and Sat 7: Hoxton Hall writers Festival.  
Thurs 12: Two plays presented by The Hoxton Drama Group.  
Fri 13: Laurie Booth with "Animal Parts".

**YOUNG VIC**  
66 The Cut, SE1  
928 6363.

From 5 July: Stags and Hens by Willy Russell. 7.30pm, matinees Wed and Sat, 2pm.

**THE LITTLE ANGEL MARIONETTE THEATRE.**  
Dagmar Passage, N1.  
226 1787.

Paul Hansard's Puppets presents on Saturdays and Sundays in July: Sausages - for younger children on Saturdays at 11am and for older children and adults The Scarlet Pimpernel on Saturdays and Sundays at 3pm.

## Other events

**HACKNEY COMMUNITY ACTION**  
Open meeting on 12 July.

Anyone who is involved in a HCA affiliated group might like to consider standing for one of the posts currently vacant. These include a place on the HCA executive committee, The Rio Cinema, Market Nursery etc. Ask your group for details.

**THE ISLINGTON ARTS FACTORY**  
2 Parkhurst Rd, N7.  
607 0561.

Summer Dance Course from 30 July to 10 August, Monday to Friday 11am to 3pm.

Contemporary and Jazz Dance (for people with a year or more's experience of dance) 'Phone for more details.

Jazz Summer School: same place and time. This school is a basic introduction for those who can play an instrument but have not played much jazz before.

**MINERS' BENEFIT:** at Stoke Newington Town Hall on Thurs 26 July from 7.30 to 11pm. £3, food and entertainment included. Money raised will go to the South Wales Miners' Food Fund. The Welsh Miners are expected to present a miners' lamp to the people of Hackney in recognition of the support they have received. Groups are needed to help sponsor the event - offers of food, money or entertainment would be welcomed. Further details from Hackney Community Action, 380 Old St, EC1, Tel 729 5536.

...and a MINERS' BENEFIT with a difference...

**WOMEN ONLY BENEFIT** for Oakdale Colliery Women's Support Group organised by Hackney Greenham Women. (see article on page 1). Friday 13th July at Stoke Newington Town Hall, Church St, N16. 7.30 pm Film: Salt of the Earth (a film about a miners' strike won by women in 1930's Mexico). 9.00 pm Music by HI-JINX. Speakers from Oakdale Women's Support Group. Bar and Disco. Sorry, wheelchair access difficult: 3 steps up to all entrances (help available), but toilets down flight of stairs (no disabled toilets). There will be a signer.

**SAVE HACKNEY CAMPAIGN**  
380 Old St, EC1.  
738 8549

Sir George Young, Minister in the department of the environment, which is responsible for the "Inner City Partnership" funds, will be visiting Hackney on 19 July. The Save Hackney Campaign are going to meet him. Why not join them? Look out for further details or give them a ring.

# CHATS PALACE

## HOMERTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

42 BROOKSBY'S WALK E.9. 986 6714

## July Calendar

**Important:** As Chats Palace has a club licence all users of the building must be members or their guests. \*Indicates outside hirer.

Wed 8.30pm	<b>4 Irish folk music</b> in the bar with Luckpenny. Free.
Thur 8pm	<b>5 Chats Juke Joint</b> presents The Hatchet Men, jug blues and jive. £2/£1 unwaged. (see Programme News)
8.30pm	In the bar W.O.O.F. present a mad half hour with "WOOF Bites Back" Free.
Fri 8pm	<b>6 Chats Youth Showcase</b> with Youth Drama Group, Youth Girls Dance Group, and Youth Band "Emphasis". 50p members/£1 non-mem.
Sat 8pm	<b>7 The return of Chats Palace Music Hall.</b> £2.50/£1 unwaged.
Sun Noon	<b>8 Lunchtime Jazz</b> with The Rae James Quintet. 50p. children free.
Wed 8.30pm	<b>11 Irish folk music</b> in the bar with Luckpenny. Free.
Thur 8.30pm	<b>12 Jive and Jitterbug Dance Class</b> with Warren. £1.50/75p unwaged.
Fri 8.30pm	<b>13 *Benefit for Victoria Park Playpark.</b> with Bar Flies, Nelson + Eddy MacDonald, abd Charlie. £2/£1 unwaged.
Sat 8pm	<b>14 Closed.</b> We'll all be down at Daubeney Fields taking part in + Sun 15 the Hackney Marsh Fun Festival '84 "Oh-limpics".
Wed 8.30pm	<b>18 Irish Music</b> in the bar with Luckpenny. Free.
Thur 2pm	<b>19 Senior Citizens Club</b> presents Age Exchange in "A Place To Stay". Free
8pm	<b>Chats Juke Joint</b> with Cat Talk, plus Juke Joint sound. £2/£1 unwaged.
Fri 8pm	<b>20 The Explosives</b> , in "Never Too Late". £2/£1 unwaged.
Sat 8pm	<b>21 *East London Troops Out Benefit</b> with High Life Music + Terry and the Vagabonds. £2 waged/£1 unwaged
Sun Noon	<b>22 Lunchtime Jazz</b> in the bar 50p. children free.
Wed 8.30pm	<b>25 Irish Music</b> in the bar with Luckpenny. Free.
Thur 8.30pm	<b>26 Jive and Jitterbug Dance Class</b> with Warren. £1.50/75p unwaged.
Fri 8pm	<b>27 *Benefit for Stoke Mandeville Hospital Paraplegic Olympics Fund</b> with bands and singers.
Sat 8pm	<b>28 Staunch Poets &amp; Players</b> in "Gather In Your Name" £2.50/£1 unwaged.
Sun	<b>29 Lunchtime Jazz</b> with Night Flight Five.

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FRI SAT SUN 6.53  
**FINALLY SUNDAY!**  
A Feature Film  
Starring Peter Fonda and Jean-Louis Trintignant  
MON TUE WED 7.05  
**OBSESSION**  
DIRECTED BY BRIAN DE PALMA

**THE ESSENTIAL HITCHCOCK**  
8.45  
&  
**VERTIGO**  
A tall story about a pushover.  
DIRECTED BY ALFRED HITCHCOCK

FRI 13 SAT 14 SUN 15 MON 16 TUE 17 WED 18

**ISABELLE HUPPERT · MIOU-MIOU**  
in DIANE KURYS' prize-winning film  
**AT FIRST SIGHT**  
FRI SAT SUN 7.05  
ENCOUNTERS  
**PAULINE AT THE BEACH**  
MON TUE WED 7.00  
Les Biches

FRI 20 SAT 21 SUN 22 MON 23 TUE 24 WED 25

**BITTER CAME**  
BRITISH PREMIERE  
9.00  
&  
**BLUE CASES NEGATES**  
RICHARD PRACY  
7.10

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**THURSDAYS + MATINEES + SPECIAL EVENTS**

**SUNDAY 22ND (MATINEE)**  
THE HILARY MAY (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 102 mins) 2.00  
LIFE IS A BED OF ROSES (1935) (Dir: Allan Benham, 1935, 78 mins) 2.00  
W. W. W. (1936) (Dir: Frank Capra, 1936, 102 mins) 2.00  
\* \* \* GARDEN FURY (1984) 2.00

**THURSDAY 17TH (MATINEE)**  
FOR LOVE OR MONEY (1983) (Dir: John Brown, 1983, 102 mins) 2.00  
1983 Australia, 102 mins  
ALL TICKETS HALF PRICE

**THURSDAY 17TH (EVENING)**  
TO BE A WOMAN (1981) (Dir: John Brown, 1981, 102 mins) 2.00  
FUNKY VALENTINE (1981) (Dir: John Brown, 1981, 102 mins) 2.00  
FOR LOVE OR MONEY (1983) (Dir: John Brown, 1983, 102 mins) 2.00  
1983 Australia, 102 mins  
All tickets half price

**SUNDAY 15TH (MATINEE)**  
CINCA ZUMBA (1951) (Dir: Carlos Borrajo, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
QUETHON (1951) (Dir: Carlos Borrajo, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
WED MARSH (1984) 2.00

**THURSDAY 17TH (MATINEE)**  
UNDER FIRE (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 102 mins) 2.00  
1983 Australia, 102 mins  
ALL TICKETS HALF PRICE

**\*\*\*\*\* HOLLYWOOD GOES TO CENTRAL AMERICA \*\*\*\*\***

**THURSDAY 17TH (EVENING)**  
APPOINTMENT IN HOUSTON (1951) (Dir: Jacques Tourneur, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins  
JACK FINE (1951) (Dir: Jacques Tourneur, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins

**SUNDAY 22ND (MATINEE)**  
BLACK GOD, WHITE DEVIL (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins  
THE LAST SUPPER (1951) (Dir: Thomas Osterman, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins

**THURSDAY 17TH (MATINEE)**  
THE SCARLET BOOCHER (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins  
PLATONOV (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins

**THURSDAY 17TH (EVENING)**  
THE CASES NEGATES (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins  
BETTER ONCE (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins

**FRIDAY 20TH (MATINEE)**  
ONCE (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins  
THE HUNTER (1951) (Dir: John Brown, 1951, 78 mins) 2.00  
1951, 78 mins

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MONDAY 9th	<b>PARTNERS IN CRIME</b> 4 piece/Rock'n' Blues	£1.00	THURSDAY 12th/19th	<b>BRAD BREATH &amp; his Two Buttes Band</b> Sincerity - how can you doubt it? featuring ANDY ROBERTS, B. J. COLE, PETE DENNIS, HOWARD TIBBLE, AL STEWART & STEVE DONNELLY.	£2.00
MONDAY 16th	<b>THE DESERTERS</b> 5 piece/Desert Rock	£1.00	THURSDAY 26th	<b>EXOCETTS</b>	£1.50
MONDAY 23rd	<b>PARTNERS IN CRIME</b>	£1.00	FRIDAYS	<b>JUICE ON THE LOOSE</b>	£2.00
TUESDAY 3rd	<b>JACK PINE QUINTET</b> Jazz	£1.00	SATURDAYS	<b>BIG-CHIEF</b> Jazz, Blues n' Boogie... featuring ART THEMEN, DAVE CHAMBERS	£1.50
TUESDAY	<b>COWAN STREET</b> Jazz	£1.00	SUNDAY 1st	<b>* IVORY COASTERS *</b> farewell Gig from a great band, who have been with us for a long time	£2.00
TUESDAY	<b>JACK PINE QUINTET</b> Jazz	£1.00	SUNDAY 15th	<b>JO-ANN KELLY BAND</b>	£1.50
TUESDAY	<b>COWAN STREET</b> Jazz	£1.00	SUNDAY 22nd	<b>CAYENNE</b>	£2.00
TUESDAY	<b>JACK PINE QUINTET</b> Jazz	£1.00			
WEDNESDAY 4th	<b>HI-JINX</b> (£1 unwaged)	£1.50			
WEDNESDAY 11th/18th/25th	<b>REACTORS</b>	£1.00			

Doors open at 8.30 and most bands want to start by 9.15 - please give the musicians your support by coming early. Reduced admission most nights for claimants/students producing UB40/student union card. No reduction for latecomers.

Manor House Tube. **music every night** 141-171 Buses.



Continued from front page.

we? We came back from Barnsley saying that."

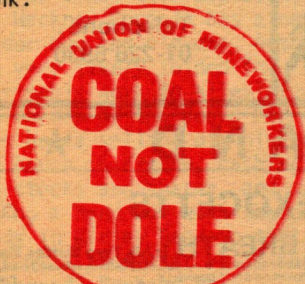
## Contact

The excitement and problems of organising as women experienced in Oakdale are similar in many ways to the experiences of the organised women's movement. The group is deliberately non-hierarchical: "We're not a committee. We're all the same. There's nobody higher than anyone else. Only a treasurer. We have a laugh and a joke." As for many feminists, the women are faced by the challenge of avoiding a clique forming of the most active women, of making sure all the women know what is happening and feel involved.

Just getting in touch with women at all was hard enough: only men have access to politics in Oakdale, so one method was to allow women to speak to the men at Union meetings who could relay the message to their wives! Direct women-to-women contact could only be achieved by door-to-door visiting, and special leaflets in food parcels.

Like all women's organisations, the women have had to change not only their own attitudes in order to become active, but also the men's. There have been very mixed experiences, from opposition to encouragement: "Sometimes he does pass a comment and say 'Oh, you're not out again!...' He's always watching the news to see if we're on it... He's proud of us." One woman said that the strike had involved her husband cooking egg and chips for the children for the first time in his life.

But although the women go on local pickets they are excluded from the bigger actions - the chairman of the Union lodge 'doesn't agree with women on the picket line. We can do anything else but not that.' To change this is probably a much harder struggle than it was to become active as women: "It's the men who need educating... They live in the past. Women should be at home. We shocked 'em, I think."



The women may not particularly identify with the Orgreave type of confrontation - in some ways a conservative model of political action - but they would like to be able to decide for themselves where their action would be most effective, as they did at the anti-Thatcher demonstration outside a Conservative Party conference at Porthcawl. 1500 women were present, some of whom threw eggs at Maggie. The women who went from Oakdale decided that this was a time to be aggressive, and instead of singing the song they had prepared, they shouted.

Is there another factor, an instance other than Barnsley, of women's political action, that has had a part to play



Miners and the Oakdale Lodge Banner with people from Hackney. Photo: Jim Westwood

in Oakdale women's involvement? One woman had a suggestion: "I think you ladies (Greenham) have got a lot to do with it."

Before the strike, Oakdale women had mixed feelings about Greenham - again it was a case of no first hand experience of what its politics involved, and, as always, the press has a lot to answer for - but the issues raised by pit closures make the threat posed by nuclear power very clear, and, by association (eg. the manufacture of plutonium), nuclear weapons.

## "You'll be seeing more of us"

Talking about her mother-in-law's fears that coal shortages would leave OAP's cold, one woman emphasized the connection: "Well, they'll soon be warm with radiation poisoning from all these lovely nuclear reactors they're going to put up when the coal goes." A lot of women were deeply affected by the TV

film 'The Day After'. The women were confident that this interest in Greenham and CND won't be going away after the strike is over: "You'll be seeing more of us".

The women are optimistic that the strike will be won, but generally feel that the way forward is through compromise on both sides. Whatever the outcome, the experience of the Women's Support Group has had a profound effect on its members: "I've never felt so committed as what I do now."

As for Hackney Greenham Women, the chance to learn from women with very different lives and circumstances, but also to share our experiences, is a great support. Hopefully, the Benefit on Friday 13th July will be just the first step in a continuing link.



PEOPLE FROM HACKNEY HANDING IN A WELL SIGNED PETITION FOR THE "SAVE THE GLC" CAMPAIGN - ACCOMPANIED BY HACKNEY'S M.P.'s, KEN LIVINGSTONE AND RUTH GEE.

Photo - GLC.

## DEPORTATION NEWS:

### HASBUDAKS

Yet another Hackney family has recently been faced with splitting up and deportation under Britain's racist immigration laws. The Home Office has allowed Orhan Karabardak time to appeal against his deportation back to Turkey, but he is still threatened with separation from his English wife Helen and their child.

Meanwhile the Hasbudaks, recently deported as a family back to Turkey despite the support of friends, teachers, fellow-pupils and Hackney council, have been in contact with friends in Hackney. Neither parent has got work, and they do not have permanent accommodation. The children are at school - but Fatih is laughed at because his pronunciation of Turkish is so funny.

The Hasbudak children's case has gone to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg but is unlikely to be heard for several years. The Hasbudak campaign is proposing that a Hackney Anti Deportation conference should be held in the Autumn, involving women's group groups, community and ethnic minority organisations, trade unions and political parties.

### BLOCH

Jonathan Bloch, a South African refugee living in Hackney, has had an application for permanent residency in Britain turned down, and will have to leave the country at the end of this year unless the Home Secretary reverses his decision.

Jonathan's application for British citizenship was turned down on the grounds of his co-authorship of "British Intelligence and Covert Action", a book about the under-cover activities of the intelligence services since World War II.

Before publication, the book was checked by a barrister for libel and breaches of the Official Secrets Act in order to avoid the risk of prosecution. No action has been taken against the book's co-author, who is a British citizen, and "British Intelligence and Covert Action" has not been banned and continues to be freely on sale.

## HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS

Perhaps this issue of HPP is the first one you've ever seen. Perhaps you've bought the odd copy in the past. Perhaps you're a devoted monthly reader. Whatever you are, did you know that you can help write or produce the next monthly issue. All you have to do is come to our next open editorial meeting, which will be held in Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High Street, E8 at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 18 July.

HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS is an alternative non-profit making monthly newspaper produced by an open group of people who live or work in Hackney. We publish the paper because we believe that Hackney needs an alternative to the commercial press to serve the real interests of its people. We have no editor and no shareholders, and no one is paid by the paper.

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## HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS

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